

Palo Verde 3 4Q/2003 Plant Inspection Findings

Initiating Events

Mitigating Systems

Barrier Integrity

Emergency Preparedness

Occupational Radiation Safety

Public Radiation Safety

Significance:  Mar 06, 2003

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: NCV NonCited Violation

FAILURE TO PREVENT THE RELEASE OF DETECTABLE AMOUNTS OF LICENSED RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL

IR 05000528-03-08, IR 05000529-03-08, IR 05000530-03-08, on 2/24/03 - 3/06/30; Arizona Public Service Company; Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1, 2, and 3; Radioactive Material Control; Radiation Safety Team Inspection.

The team identified three examples (one NRC identified and two self-revealing) of a noncited violation of Technical Specification 5.4.1.a because the licensee failed to follow procedural requirements. Specifically, the licensee failed to prevent detectable amounts of licensed radioactive material from being unconditionally released from the radiologically controlled area, as required by Procedure 75RP-9RP09, Revision 21, Section 3.2.

Unconditionally releasing equipment from the radiologically controlled area with detectable radioactivity was a performance deficiency. The finding was more than minor because it was associated with the cornerstone attribute (material release) and it affected the associated cornerstone objective (to ensure adequate protection of public health and safety from exposure to radioactive materials released into the public domain). The finding involved an occurrence

in the radiological material control program that was contrary to licensee procedures. When processed through the Public Safety Significance Determination Process, the finding was found to have very low safety significance because the finding was a radioactive material control issue, was not a transportation issue, public exposure was not greater than 5 millirem, and there were less than five occurrences.

Inspection Report# : [2003008\(pdf\)](#)

Physical Protection

Significance: N/A Jan 17, 2003

Identified By: NRC

Item Type: FIN Finding

Verification of compliance with Interim Compensatory Measures Order

On February 25, 2002, the NRC imposed by Order, Interim Compensatory Measures to enhance physical security. The inspectors determined that, overall, the licensee appropriately incorporated the Interim Compensatory Measures into the site protective strategy and access authorization program; developed and implemented relevant procedures; ensured that the emergency plan could be implemented; and established and effectively coordinated interface agreements with offsite organizations.

Inspection Report# : [2003006\(pdf\)](#)

Miscellaneous

Last modified : March 02, 2004